IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for creating an electronic identification document, the method comprising:

providing an electronic document to a user, wherein the electronic document contains input fields for personal identification information;

receiving the user's personal identification information in the input fields of the electronic document;

receiving an electronic signature from the user, and attaching the electronic signature to the electronic document;

adding an electronic certificate to the electronic document;

after adding the electronic certificate to the electronic document, encrypting the electronic document which contains the added electronic certificate; and

uploading the electronic document to a pervasive computing device;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic document is a passport.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic document contains a unique serial number from an issuing authority that uniquely identifies the electronic document.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claims 1, wherein the electronic document contains a digital watermark ~~created by an issuing authority~~ that can be used to detect an illegal copy of the electronic document.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic document comprises an authorization seal from the issuing authority that is displayed by the pervasive computing device to verify authenticity of the electronic document ~~contains at least one of the following items of personal information:~~

~~name;~~

~~home address;~~

~~date of birth;~~

~~country of citizenship; and~~

~~social security number~~.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the pervasive computing device may comprise any of the following:

~~personal digital assistant;~~

~~laptop computer;~~

mobile phone; and

smart phone~~; and~~

~~palm pilot~~.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic document is renewed automatically at set time intervals.

8. (Original) A method for verifying the authenticity of an electronic identification document, the method comprising:

downloading the electronic document from a pervasive computing device;

decrypting the electronic document;

validating a digital certificate attached to the electronic document;

verifying the authenticity of an electronic signature attached to the electronic document;

encrypting the electronic document; and

uploading the electronic document back to the pervasive computing device;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the electronic document is a passport.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the electronic document contains a unique serial number from an issuing authority that uniquely identifies the electronic document.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claims 8, wherein the electronic document contains a digital watermark ~~created by an issuing authority~~ that can be used to detect an illegal copy of the electronic document.

12. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the electronic document comprises an authorization seal from the issuing authority that is displayed by the pervasive computing device to further verify authenticity of the electronic document ~~contains at least one of the following items of personal information:~~

~~name;~~

~~home address;~~

~~date of birth;~~

~~country of citizenship; and~~

~~social security number~~.

13. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising changing information contained in the electronic document after decrypting the electronic document, wherein the changes are a part of the electronic document when the electronic document gets encrypted by the encrypting step.

14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising attaching new information to the electronic document after decrypting the electronic document, wherein the new information is a part of the electronic document when the electronic document gets encrypted by the encrypting step.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the information attached to the electronic document is a visa.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 8, further comprising attaching a new digital certificate to the electronic document.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the electronic document is uploaded via the Bluetooth protocol.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the pervasive computing device may comprise any of the following:

personal digital assistant;

laptop computer;

mobile phone;

smart phone; and

palm pilot.

19. (Currently amended) A method for creating an electronic identification document, the method comprising:

receiving an electronic document, wherein the electronic document contains input fields for personal identification information;

entering personal identification information in the input fields of the electronic document;

entering an electronic signature, wherein the electronic signature is attached to the electronic document; and

downloading the electronic document to a pervasive computing device, wherein the electronic document is encrypted and includes an encrypted electronic certificate;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

20. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 19, further comprising:

uploading the electronic document from the pervasive computing device;

decrypting the uploaded electronic document;

validating the digital certificate attached to the decrypted electronic document; and

verifying the authenticity of the electronic signature attached to the decrypted electronic document.

21. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for creating an electronic identification document, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for providing an electronic document to a user, wherein the electronic document contains input fields for personal identification information;

instructions for receiving the user's personal identification information in the input fields of the electronic document;

instructions for receiving an electronic signature from the user, and attaching the electronic signature to the electronic document;

instructions for adding an electronic certificate to the electronic document;

instructions for encrypting the electronic document which contains the added electronic certificate; and

instructions for uploading the electronic document to a pervasive computing device;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

22. (Original) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for verifying the authenticity of an electronic identification document, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for downloading the electronic document from a pervasive computing device;

instructions for decrypting the electronic document;

instructions for validating a digital certificate attached to the electronic document;

instructions for verifying the authenticity of an electronic signature attached to the electronic document;

instructions for encrypting the electronic document; and

instructions for uploading the electronic document back to the pervasive computing device;

instructions for wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

23. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for creating an electronic identification document, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving an electronic document, wherein the electronic document contains input fields for personal identification information;

instructions for entering personal identification information in the input fields of the electronic document;

instructions for entering an electronic signature, wherein the electronic signature is attached to the electronic document; and

instructions for downloading the electronic document to a pervasive computing device, wherein the electronic document is encrypted and includes an encrypted electronic certificate;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

24. (Currently amended) A system for creating an electronic identification document, the system comprising:

a first communication component which provides an electronic document to a user, wherein the electronic document contains (i) input fields for personal identification information, (ii) a unique serial number from an issuing authority that uniquely identifies the electronic document, and (iii) a digital watermark that can be used to detect an illegal copy of the electronic document;

a first receiving component which receives the user's personal identification information in the input fields of the electronic document;

a second receiving component which receives an electronic signature from the user, and ~~attaching~~ attaches the electronic signature to the electronic document;

a register which adds an electronic certificate to the electronic document;

an encrypting component which encrypts the electronic document; and

a second communication component which uploads the electronic document to a pervasive computing device;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

25. (Original) A system for verifying the authenticity of an electronic identification document, the method comprising:

a first communication component which downloads the electronic document from a pervasive computing device;

a decrypting component which decrypts the electronic document;

a validation component which validates a digital certificate attached to the electronic document;

a verification component which verifies the authenticity of an electronic signature attached to the electronic document;

an encrypting component which encrypts the electronic document; and

a second communication component which uploads the electronic document back to the pervasive computing device;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.

26. (Currently amended) A system for creating an electronic identification document, the system comprising:

a receiving mechanism which receives an electronic document, wherein the electronic document contains (i) input fields for personal identification information, (ii) a unique serial number from an issuing authority that uniquely identifies the electronic document, and (iii) a digital watermark that can be used to detect an illegal copy of the electronic document;

a first input component which enters personal identification information in the input fields of the electronic document;

a second input component which enters an electronic signature, wherein the electronic signature is attached to the electronic document; and

a downloading mechanism which downloads the electronic document to a pervasive computing device, wherein the electronic document is encrypted and includes an encrypted electronic certificate;

wherein the electronic document is a legally valid form of identification.